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# East Bloc Lands, in Reply to U.S., Limit Travel

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 — Three East European Governments have informed the United States that they are taking travel measures against American diplomats and other officials in retaliation for steps taken by Washington last month against them, diplomats said today.

The latest moves will produce tighter surveillance on American official representatives trying to move around in some Soviet bloc countries, the diplomats said. They are almost tit for tat for restrictions imposed by the Administration to help the Federal Bureau of Investigation keep closer track of Communist officials.

The Administration was responding to concerns in Congress and security agencies that the East Europeans were working for the Soviet Union, particularly in trying to gain access to high technology in parts of the United States, such as the Silicon Valley region in California, that are closed to Soviet representatives.

In December, the Bulgarian, Czechoslovak, East German and Polish embassies were told by the State Department that their diplomats and other officials would no longer be able to travel freely in the United States, as they had

been able to for more than a decade. The Hungarians and Rumanians were warned against spying but exempted from the rules.

The Bulgarians, Czechoslovaks, East Germans and Poles were told that, starting on Jan. 6, their official representatives would have to give 48 hours' notice of approaching travel and make their travel and hotel arrangements through the State Department's Office of Foreign Missions. Journalists and tourists were exempted from the rule.

The new rules were imposed to meet congressional concerns that Soviet bloc agents were able to evade F.B.I. surveillance by taking advantage of

unimpeded travel. The officials were not barred, however, from visiting any particular part of the United States.

No new travel rules were imposed on officials from Hungary and Rumania, which are also members of the Warsaw Pact, because American relations with those two countries are better, American officials said.

The Soviet Union and the United States both impose tight travel curbs on each other. About 25 percent of each country is off limits to the other. In addition, Soviet and American officials must get permission to travel outside the areas in which they live, even to "open" areas. But until the new rules were imposed, there had been no restrictions on Americans in Eastern Europe, or on Eastern Europeans here.

Rozanne L. Ridgway, Assistant Sec-

retary of State for European and Canadian Affairs, explaining the rationale for the rules in testimony before a Senate committee last December, said: "Clearly, Moscow's East European allies do involve themselves as surrogates for the Soviet Union in the illegal acquisition of intelligence and controlled technologies. In taking steps to reduce the espionage threat in the United States, we are mindful of the East European dimension."

Poland recently told the United States that in retaliation for the new American moves, beginning on March 1, all American officials in Warsaw and in the Poznan and Cracow consulates would not be allowed to leave the districts in which they live without telling authorities 48 hours in advance. The districts extend to a radius of about 30

to 40 miles, diplomats said.

The Poles, unlike the Soviet Union and other East European countries, do not have special offices to make travel arrangements for diplomats and did not indicate that the American officials would have to buy tickets or make hotel arrangements through Government channels. But the new rules give the Polish authorities much more information to help monitor American travel, diplomats said.

Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia have told Washington that they plan to impose travel measures in response to the American moves, but have not yet provided details. East Germany has not made any official statement, but is expected to follow the Bulgarian and Czechoslovak lead.